

Remarks

Entry of the foregoing amendments and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

At the outset, the undersigned would like to express appreciation to Examiner Ho for the time and attention extended during the telephone interview conducted on May 21, 2004.

As was discussed during the interview, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that at least a portion of the thermally responsive indicator is adapted to visually change in response to a change in temperature. As the Examiner agreed during the interview, amended claims 1-20 are patentably distinguishable over U.S. Patent Nos. 5,498,261 to Strul ("Strul") and 5,413,557 to Solar ("Solar"). Newly added claims 53-76 are also patentably distinguishable over the Strul reference and the Solar reference.

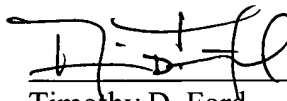
Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

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Cooley Godward LLP
ATTN: Patent Group
One Freedom Square
Reston Town Center
11951 Freedom Drive
Reston, Virginia 20190-5656
Tel: (703) 456-8000
Fax: (703) 456-8100
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Respectfully submitted,
COOLEY GODWARD LLP

By:


Timothy D. Ford
Reg. No. 47,567